

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0026] as follows:

[0026] FIG. 7 is a section through the representation of FIG. 6 taken along line 7-7; and

Please amend paragraph [0027] as follows:

[0027] FIG. 8 is an angled view of a groove of the component of FIGS. 5 through 7;

Please add new paragraphs [0027.1], [0027.2], [0027.3] and [0027.4] after paragraph [0027] as follows:

[0027.1] FIG. 9 is the distal end of a locking nail;

[0027.2] FIG. 10 is an exploded view of the nail retention screw and a joining sleeve;

[0027.3] FIG. 11 is a sectional view along lines X-C of FIG. 10; and

[0027.4] FIG. 12 is a joining sleeve shown in FIGS. 10 and 11.

Please amend paragraph [0030] as follows:

[0030] The cylindrical portion 22 has a reception bore 24 in which a retaining bar 26 is received. The retaining bar 26 exhibits a first cylindrical portion 28 at the end of which an end of a locking nail, which is not shown, can be mounted in a manner which is ~~not depicted in FIGS. 9-12 in detail~~, as is illustrated in co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/391,896. The locking nail 110 may be a supracondylar nail, for example. A larger-diameter cylindrical portion 30 of the retaining bar 26 extends through the reception bore 24 of the cylindrical component 22. In the preferred embodiment, at the other end of the retaining bar 26, a nut 32 is screwed onto a thread of a tension bar 122 ~~(not shown)~~ and extends through a bore in the hollow retaining bar 26. The front end of the tension bar 122 is shown at 34. End 34 of the tension bar 122 is screwed into a female thread of the locking nail 110 so as to allow it to be tensioned against the left-hand end of the retaining bar 28 in FIG. 1. A location device 154, 156 on the bar 26 and 81 on the

nail 110 between the nail 110 and retaining bar 26 also help locate the locking nail 110 in its rotational position relative to the retaining bar 26.

Please amend paragraph [0031] as follows:

[0031] The cylindrical portion 30 has disposed therein several spaced-apart recesses 36. One is shown at 36 in FIG. 1. It rests on an annular groove 27. FIG. 12 shows a plurality of recesses or detents 36.